(c) whether all the workers engaged by various agencies including Govemment/PSUs are registered under the Construction Workers Act;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the schemes for the welfare of these workers and their children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The number of construction workers in Delhi. Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, as per Census 2001 is given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(c) and (d) The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 provides for registration of construction workers with the State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. All the construction workers are not registered with the State Welfare Boards as the States are at different stages of implementation of the Act.

(e) The welfare schemes are to be formulated by State Welfare Boards. The Schemes consist of immediate assistance in case of workers accident, pension after age of 60 years, loans for the purpose of construction of house, the premium for group insurance scheme, assistance for education of children of beneficiaries, medical expenses, maternity benefits to female, etc.

Statement

Number of construction workers in metropolis cities in the country as per Census, 2001

Sl. No.	Name of the Metropolis city	Number of construction workers
1.	Delhi	351249
2.	Mumbai*	98746
3.	Kolkata**	73194
4.	Chennai**	122838

* Information relates to Navi Mumbal, Kalyan, Dombivili, Ulhasnagar and Thane (Municipal Corporation)

** Information relates to Municipal Corporation only.

Investment of EPF deposit

1481. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to invest 5-6 per cent of the total deposit of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) amounting to more than Rs. 13 thousand crore in share market;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the new investment pattern accepted by EPFO for its accumulated funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund has not taken any decision on investment of fund under Provident Fund in share market so far. Under the existing pattern of investment as notified by the Government on 09-07-2003 Provident Fund accumulations can be invested in Government Securities, Government Guaranteed Securities, Bonds/Securities of Public Financial Institutions, short duration Term Deposit Receipt of Public Sector Banks and Collateral Borrowing and Lending Obligation subject to the terms and conditions mentioned therein.

Ban on retired supervisors to be elected as an office bearer of a union

1482. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any bar for 'retired supervisor of an industrial unit' to be elected as office bearer of a recognised union and negotiate with the management; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) There is no bar for 'retired supervisor of an industrial unit' to be elected as an office bearer of a recognized union and negotiate with the management under the provisions of Section 22 of the Trade Unions Act, 1926 and if constitution bye-laws of the Trade Union, approved by the Registrar of Trade Union, provides for the same.

(b) Does not arise.

Minimum wages to contract and casual workers

1483. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-muster-roll and casual workers appointed in the Central Government, Public Sector Undertakings during each of the last three years and the current year, separately, State-wise;

(b) the details of minimum wages paid to them;

(c) the mechanism put in place to ensure payment of minimum wages to the contract and casual workers through the labour contractors or outsourcing agencies;

(d) whether Government has formulated any policy for regularisation of above workers including contract workers; and